

EXCESSIVE RAINS CAUSE OF SLIDES

Nine Million Cubic Yards of
Dirt to be Removed From
Panama Canal.

**WHAT THE SPECIAL BOARD
OF SCIENTISTS SAYS ABOUT
THE PANAMA CANAL.**

Slides of nine million cubic feet of earth are being removed at the rate of a million yards a month.

But the canal will be in operation long before the nine months are up.

There may be further slides, but it is not true that the canal is likely to be tied up repeatedly for long periods.

Excessive rainfall causes the slides. The precipitation at Culebra is 87 inches a year.

Preventative measures suggested: Vegetation on the slopes, closing of cracks, drainage by tiles, open drains and other methods, a cut made by sluicing in the east Culebra slide. Trouble is unlikely at any point outside the mile through Culebra.

International News Service.
WASHINGTON, March 24.—Panama canal slides are caused by excessive rainfall, the most important remedies for which are drainage, and sluicing, according to a report submitted to President Wilson today by the committee of eminent engineers and scientists, which recently completed an investigation on the isthmus.

William H. Welch, president of the National Academy of Science, is chairman of the committee.

Despite the 9,000,000 cubic yards of earth yet to be removed can be dredged out only at the rate of 1,000,000 cubic yards a month, the president is informed that the canal will not be closed for a period of nine months, but that it can be opened as soon as the channel is sufficiently deepened and the slides become so low that dredges, even when interrupted by the passage of ships, can keep ahead of the movements of earth.

Slides in Culebra cut will continue to cause considerable expense to the nation for a number of years, the committee declares, and the possibility of further trouble at Culebra is pointed out. The report says it is the firm belief of the committee that after the present difficulties have been overcome navigation through the canal is not likely again to be seriously interrupted. These slides are declared to be absolutely no justification for statements that traffic will be repeatedly interrupted for long periods in years to come. The canal will serve the great purpose for which it was constructed and the realization of that purpose in the future is assured, the report says.

Discussing the remedy for present conditions, the committee declared that every available and practicable device should be used to turn the water falling as rains from the ground that is sliding and to prevent it from entering adjacent ground. The following remedial measures are suggested by the committee:

"Covering slopes bordering the slides with vegetation; closing of peripheral cracks, which exist for a long time before earth movements begin; drainage of undisturbed and threatened areas by means of surface and tile drainage; drainage of the great slides by establishing complete system of open drains; drainage by tunnels, which should be tried with caution and extended only in cases which promise results commensurate with the cost; that a cut made by sluicing in the east Culebra slide, starting at an appropriate point on the canal and diverging from it in a southeasterly direction in a zone of gentle slopes. The committee recommends affecting chiefly the Culebra district, since the three great slides are all in this district, which is the principal area of danger."

The president is informed that sliding ground will continue to enter the canal for several years to come, though in diminishing amounts, but it is suggested that relatively inexpensive measures which tend to arrest the present active slides, or which promise to reduce the charge against maintenance of the canal in the future are warranted.

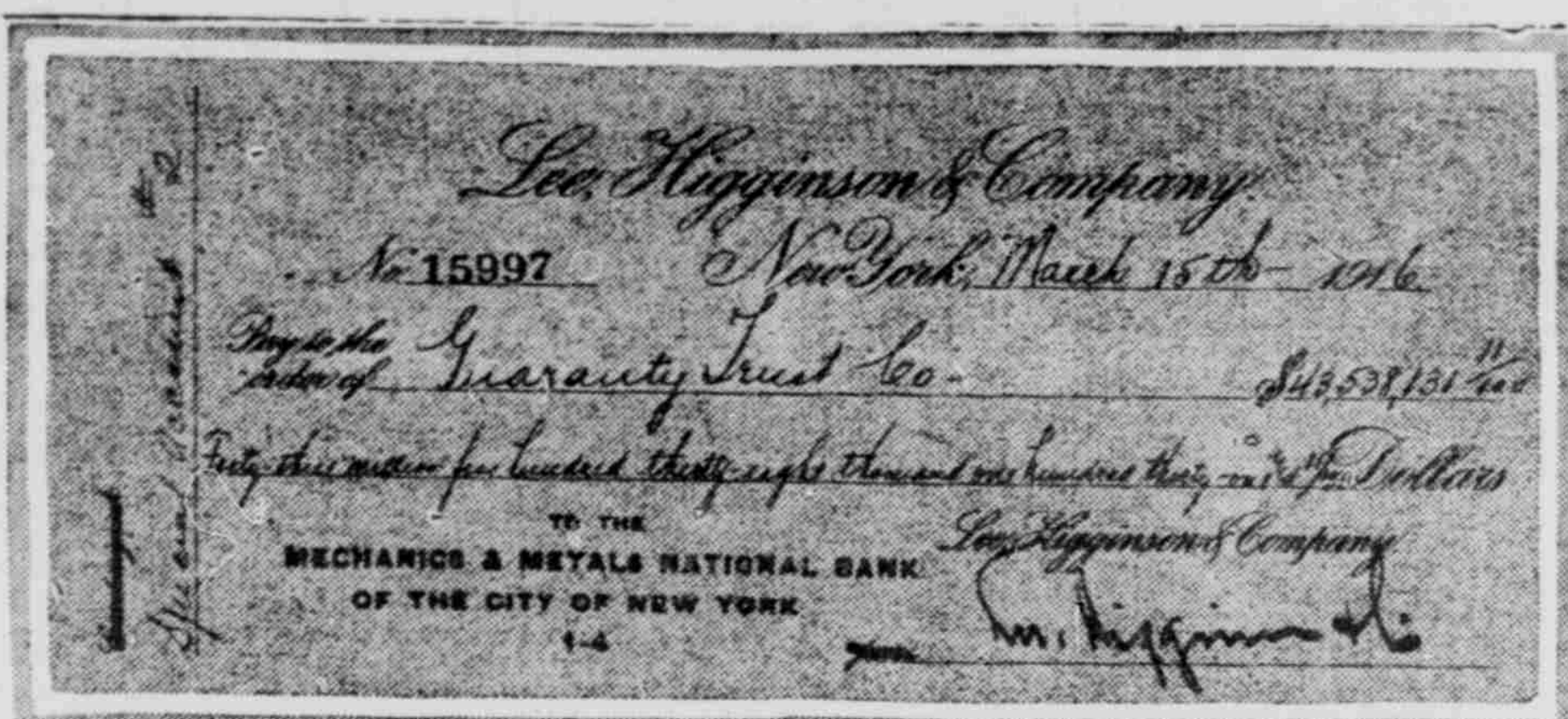
"The composition of the rocks, their structural weakness and earthquakes all instrumental in producing the slides, are beyond the control of man, but a partial control of ground and rain water and the relief of pressure by unloading certain areas are feasible, and the committee confines its remedial suggestion to these measures," the report states.

"The slides in the canal zone are essentially like many in other parts of the world; they are due to the inability of the earth or rock to support the weight of overlying material. Slow processes of natural erosion, rapid cutting by flooded streams and excavations by man frequently lead to landslides. Much of the canal is cut through weak rocks, and in the Culebra district the prism is exceptionally deep.

"The rocks of Culebra district are of two kinds—stratified and massive. The chief material involved in the

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MIDVALE STEEL CHECK
NEW YORK, March 24.—A check for \$43,538,131.11, the second largest ever paid in the United States, has passed through the New York clearing house. It was drawn on the Mechanics and Metals National bank by Lee Higginson & Co., to the order of the Guaranty Trust Co. It represents payment for the issue of Midvale Steel convertible five per cent bonds recently sold to the three concerns named as a syndicate. The largest check ever drawn was for \$62,075,000 in connection with a Pennsylvania railroad bond sale.

slides is the stratified Cucaracha formation. It is composed of slippery minerals which are only weakly consolidated. The Cucaracha beds are limited, along the line of the canal, to the Culebra district, but they have a thickness in places of over 400 feet. The soft slippery nature of its materials are their loose, unconsolidated condition, make it unusually weak and unable to sustain any considerable load.

"The strength of the Cucaracha clay is greatly decreased by the presence of water, and the heavy tropical rains keep them nearly saturated the greater part of the year; for the broken and irregular surface of the slides and the open cracks around their borders greedily drink in the water that falls upon them."

"In the Culebra district the average rainfall since 1884 has been 87.68 inches per annum, of which about 30 inches falls in the rainy season of about eight months. Where nearly seven feet of water fall upon the surface of the country within eight months of the year, it is not surprising that there is difficulty in controlling the underground seepage. Indeed, during these practically at the surface, except possibly on the steeper slopes; and the movement of the underground water is so slow that even in the dry season the water table is not far from the surface in the level country. There is no evidence that any of the slides have been started or increased by earthquakes."

"In addition to the danger of the slides there is no danger that the canal may be blocked by the fall of the hills of Culebra district."

"The excavation of the canal, and borings in its bottom show that a narrow belt between the two hills is composed of the soft Cucaracha beds; yet to the present time there has been no upheaval of the bottom of this part of the canal, nor any other sign to indicate that the hills have settled. It is believed, therefore, that the great masses of gold and contractors hills are self-supporting and will remain so. There is no occasion to raise them."

"In addition to the immediate remedial measures suggested above, there are certain observations and protective measures which should be undertaken with a view to the future. A few slides are now in motion, but many more are quiescent. A slide is not necessarily 'dead' because it has not moved notably for a few years. Its stability may be delicate, and a slight change may be disturbed by some slowly developing weakness. There is also a bare possibility that gold and contractors hills are not so firmly supported as they are believed to be. Repeated surveys of properly placed signals for a number of years to come should be made."

"Two or three core borings should be made on each side of the canal, to study the nature of the high hills. A mechanical testing of the strength of various rocks is suggested since the future of the slides is largely dependent upon the strength of the rocks. Greater facility for the study of earthquakes shocks in this region are also recommended."

"Culebra district is the chief area of danger. Slides may occur in other parts of the canal, but they will be relatively small, and infrequent, for the banks are not high, and the unstable ground has already slid down so that its surface has approached the angle of repose. Should slides occur, they are not likely to menace the operation of the canal. Slides, great enough seriously to obstruct traffic in the canal, could occur only in the Culebra district, which is but one mile long."

In general, the committee believes that no great extension of these slides is probable, because the soft rock constituting a very large part of the slides is quite limited in extent, except east of the east Culebra slide, and conditions elsewhere are unfavorable for extensions. The committee of investigators consists of:

William H. Welch, Charles R. Van Hise, president of the University of Wisconsin; Gen. H. L. Abbott, corps of engineers United States army; John C. Branner, geologist and former president of Stanford university; Whitman Cross, geologist in the United States geological survey; R. C. Carpenter, professor of mechanical engineering in Cornell university; Arthur P. Davis, chief of the Reclamation service, Washington; J. I. Freeman, construction engineer, Providence; J. P. Hayford, dean of the College of Engineering, Northwestern; Harry Fielding Reid, professor of engineering, Johns Hopkins university.

Special Peanut Butter Saturday 15c, 2 lbs. 25c. The Philadelphia Advt.

THEATERS

COLONIAL

"The Fight of the Duchess," a Mutual masterpiece will be shown at the Colonial theater Saturday, in which Gladys Hulette, the charming little Thannouser star, makes an exquisite like duchess-essy, with her glowing dark eyes and hair, her vivacity and good taste.

In the beginning the troubles start when the old duke, satiated with hunting and other diversions, dies leaving his sickly duchess with an infant in her arms. The story goes on in which the little infant has many troubles and at last marries a blacksmith.

AT THE AUDITORIUM

On the program at the Auditorium today are "The Despoilers," a three-reel Essanay drama; "Love and Lather," a Vim comedy; "Pansy's Papers," a Vitaphone comedy, and the Selig-Tribune of current news, Sunday brings "A Child of the West," a three-reel drama, featuring that popular little player Jackie Saunders; "The Artist's Model," a single-reel comedy; "At the Doors of Doom," a one-reel drama, and "May be Moonshine," one of those funny "Ham and Bud" comedies. Dr. Rameau, a five-reel Fox picture, with a strong cast, including Fredrick Perry, Stuart Holmes, George Allison, Dorothy Bernard, Jean Southern and Claire Whitney, will be the feature for Monday.

AT THE ORPHEUM

Final performances will be given today at the Orpheum of the lively musical comedy tabloid, "The Cuban Girl." This attraction has proven very entertaining and with the principal roles in good hands, and an attractive chorus, the entertainment is one that pleases.

Beginning Sunday will be seen a new vaudeville bill featuring The Caninos, Spain's foremost dancers. These clever artists who recently arrived in this country, were formerly dancers to his royal majesty, King Alfonso and the royal court. In order to break their jump westward, they were secured for the Orpheum the first half of next week because of the fortunate arrangements in the booking office.

On the same bill will be seen Porter J. White and company in a dramatic sketch, "Ladies' Day;" Thomas Potter Dunne, a character comedian; The Bennington Sisters in songs, and Will and Kemp in acrobatic oddities.

AT THE LASALLE

The Lasalle shows today one of the popular stars for the screen in Blanche Sweet, Miss Sweet has been a noted player for some time and in "The Blacklist," a thrilling drama, she will be seen in a new role. The situations in this drama call for much strenuous acting in the small mining camp where the mine owners are persecuting their employees. Miss Sweet as the school teacher in this mining district, goes before these working men and brings about a reformation. The Paramount travel pictures will also be shown.

On Sunday, Charles E. VanLoan's "Little Sunset" will be seen at the Lasalle with Hobart Bosworth featured in the leading role. This picture is in four reels and tells a cleverly entertaining and finally exciting baseball story. Mr. Bosworth plays a star hitter who has excited the admiration of Little Sunset, a boy named on account of his red hair. This is a great picture for the boys and baseball fans, but the women will like it equally as well.

AT THE OLIVER

After a remarkable engagement of six solid months at the Cort theater, Chicago, Taylor Holmes in "His Majesty Bunker Bean," Lee Wilson Dodd's dramatization of Harry Leon Wilson's stories which were published in the Saturday Evening Post a short time since, will be shown to the patrons of the Oliver opera house for one performance on Thursday night, March 30. Here indeed is a comedy with a purpose. "As a man thinketh" is the keynote. The play is described as a pleasing mixture of light comedy and serious drama, with almost a suspicion of the tragic. The action revolves around a period in the life of Bunker Bean, a serious-minded young stenographer who gains unexpected self-reliance and strength through a belief that he is the reincarnation of only of Napoleon Bonaparte, but also of Ram-Tah, a powerful Egyptian king of ancient times. The newly-found confidence in himself transforms Bunker into an energetic business man, so sure of himself that success follows him in business and, with the assistance of his sweet-

TWO KILLED AND ONE BADLY HURT

When Eastern Flyer on Grand
Trunk Strikes Coal Train
Near Port Credit.

International News Service.
TORONTO, Ont., March 24.—Two trainmen were killed, one was badly hurt and another is missing today as the result of a collision between the eastern flyer on the Grand Trunk railway and a coal train at a siding a mile east of Port Credit last night. The passenger train was bound from Chicago to Montreal.

The dead: Harry Overend, engineer; W. O. Anderson, fireman.

The injured: Ed O'Hanahan, fireman, broken ribs, internal injuries, injuries on head, Chicago; Ward, brakeman.

Overend, engineer of the passenger was found beneath his engine with his hand on the throttle, having stuck to his post to the last. Fireman Anderson was on the freight train. Hanahan was fireman on the passenger train.

George Dennis, engineer on the freight train, escaped injury solely because at the time of the accident he was off his engine investigating the fact that three cars on the rear of his train had broken loose and were still on the main line, while the rest of his train was on the siding.

WANTS HIS CASH BACK
Michigan Man Alleges That Woman Fleeced Him.

News-Times Special Service.
CHARLOTTE, Mich., March 24.—A \$10,000 damage suit has been filed against Mrs. Augusta Saxon of Grand Ledge, who was arrested several weeks ago on charge of larceny and embezzlement, preferred by Thomas Cooley of Lake Odessa. It is understood Cooley claims he made a contract with Mrs. Saxon to care for him the rest of his life and in return he would will her a portion of his estate. Cooley claims Mrs. Saxon later induced him to draw \$5,200 from the bank and turn it over to her for investment, and that as soon as she received the cash she ignored the agreement and made no accounting of the money. When arrested recently, the officers found a bank book in her home with a deposit less than the amount claimed to be missing. Mrs. Saxon is out of the Ionia county jail on bail.

RHEUMATIC PAIN STOPPED.
The drawing of muscles, the soreness, stiffness and agonizing pain of Rheumatism quickly yield to Sloan's Liniment. It stimulates circulation to the painful part. Just apply as directed to the sore spots. In a short time the pain gives way to a tingling sensation of comfort and warmth. Sloan's Liniment has been helping him for some time. Mr. Snyder is planning for his first sale April 22.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Martindale were Chicago visitors Wednesday. It will be a relief to all Plymouth when Neff, alias Lawrence, is safely behind the bars of Michigan City. His "joke," as he called it, attempting to get away again Wednesday, is hard to appreciate. He was found under his bed carefully hidden from sight, and was no doubt hopeful that he could get away after the jail had been searched. He had taken up the top of the register, torn and tied a sheet to give appearance of having escaped in that way.

Mrs. Charles Neu and Mrs. Harold Stephenson spent Wednesday in South Bend.

Dr. and Mrs. Clifford Burkett were South Bend visitors Wednesday.

Miss Lyle Overmyer has taken charge of the artorium for Miss Southwick and will have her music studio in connection.

The grand jury is in session this week.

Allan and Charles Johnson left Thursday for the new home in Montana. The sisters will leave next week.

The mother of Mrs. N. Craig died at her daughter's home on a street, Wednesday night. She had been very ill for several weeks.

Mrs. D. Jacoby visited the family of Ed Monroe in Walkerton Wednesday. Mr. Monroe is planning to move to South Bend soon.

Miss Jessie Logan gave a delightful luncheon to six of her friends Tuesday. A daintily decorated table, with pink carnations as favors, lighted candles, centerpiece of flowers, and delicious courses, made the affair one of the most enjoyable birthday celebrations possible. The perfect shower of pretty gifts made Miss Logan's popularity apparent.

Mrs. Frances Hodgson planned a surprise for her daughter, Mrs. Ross McCrory, Monday night. Mrs. McCrory is here from Chicago visiting her friends. The next day being her birthday, the friends brought handkerchiefs as their needlework, and at the close of the evening presented her with their handiwork.

PLYMOUTH, IND.

A baby boy was born to Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Morris March 20. He has been named Robert DeWitt.

A 12-pound boy came to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Ulrich March 20.

James Reeve is quite ill with pneumonia.

Dr. Roy McElwee, nephew of Mrs. John W. Parks, preached at the M. E. church Sunday evening. His home is in Berlin, Germany, and he expects to return home in April and bring his family to America, where he hopes to remain permanently.

Miss Deldora Deloney is substituting in the Bremen public schools this week.

Mrs. Charles Coil of Elkhart is helping her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Vogie, who are leaving their old home soon.

Another big horse sale is planned for Saturday, which will be U. S. Lerner's last. He has sold the business to Tilden Snyder, who has been helping him for some time. Mr. Snyder is planning for his first sale April 22.

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CAN BE CURED

Sufferers with Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Neuritis, Sciatica, Rheumatoid, Arthritis or Gout, no matter how severe your case is, write for my FREE Book, Free. Address: Sloan's Liniment, 372 Boylston St., Boston, Mass., Dept. 3485.

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TODAY

"The Despoilers"

Three reel Essanay.

"LOVE AND LATHER"

Vim comedy.

"PANSY'S PAPERS"

Vitaphone.

SELIG-TRIBUNE

Containing the very latest
News from Mexico.

Keep the
Stomach Right

and when it shows any
signs of distress, give
help at once.

HOSTETTER'S
Stomach Bitters

has been found very helpful as
a tonic and appetizer. Try it.

Hurry! Hurry!

Saturday is positively the last day for that
**Free Extra Pair of \$5
All Wool Pants**

that's given away with every suit or
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No More **\$16.50** No Less.

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La Salle
THEATRE
BLAUFUL
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Paramount Day
Presenting
Blanche Sweet
The popular Paramount star in a new play,
"THE BLACKLIST"

This thrilling drama of labor troubles was written especially for Miss Sweet by Marion Fairfax and Wm. C. DeMille, clever writers for the dramatic stage. Miss Sweet plays a school teacher in a mining town who champions the cause of the working people. The Paramount Travel pictures will also be shown.

SUNDAY—HOBART BAWORTH in Chas. E. VanLoan's baseball comedy,
"LITTLE SUNSET"

TUESDAY, MARCH 28th.
RETURN ENGAGEMENT,
ANNA PAVLOVA

The imperial Russian dancer, in an eight reel special scenic production entitled, "THE DUMB GIRL OF PORTICI."

Rebooked by Special Request.

Regular Admission—Matinees all seats 10c. Evenings, Sundays and Holidays, 10c and 15c. Coupon Books (good for any seat at any time) 10 tickets for \$1.00.

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The Newest, Brightest, Musical Tabloid,
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With Harry Anderson, Frank Morgan, Madelon Leir and the prettiest singing and dancing girl chorus in vaudeville.

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COLONIAL TODAY

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Edwin Thanhouser presents
GLADYS HULETTE in

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A remarkable screen version of Browning's most famous poem, in five big acts.

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10c—BIG DOUBLE SHOW—10c
—THE—

"German Side of the War"

—and—
BLANCHE SWEET
—in—
"THE BLACKLIST"

By Jessie Lasky.
The Last Day for the War Pictures.
ALSO CHARLIE CHAPLIN AT HIS BEST.

9 a. m. **SURPRISE** 9 a. m.
11 p. m. **THEATER** 11 p. m.

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